

REMARKS

Status of Claims

Claims 1-11 are pending, of which claims 1 and 9 are independent.

Claims 1, 5, 7 and 9 have been amended to more clearly define the present subject matter.

Claims 10-11 have been added. The amendments and the new claims are supported by, for example, FIG. 1 of the present disclosure. No new matter has been added.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-3 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Gawlik (U.S. Patent No. 4,807,837). This rejection is traversed for at least the following reasons.

Applicant respectfully submits that, at a minimum, Gawlik fails to disclose a top plate on which the container is disposed, as recited by claim 1. The Examiner asserts that items 14 (arm) and 16 (bag) of Gawlik correspond to the claimed top plate and container, respectively. However, it is clear that the alleged container 16 is not disposed on the alleged top plate 14, but is hanged from the arm 14. Further, it is also clear that the alleged container (bag) 16 of Gawlik does not have the bottom face to which the hose is connected.

As such, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 and all claims dependent thereon are patentable over Gawlik.

Further, it is clear that Gawlik fails to disclose that the support member comprises a plurality of support members, each of which has a same length, as recited by amended claim 5. As such, claim 5 is patentable over the cited reference on its own merit in addition to the dependency upon claim 1.

Thus, it is requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 1-3 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 1, 3-4, 6 and 8-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moon (U.S. Patent No. RE 39,930) in view of Revette (U.S. Patent No. 6,588,720). Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gawlik in view of Jost (U.S. Patent No. 4,905,944). These rejections are respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

Applicant respectfully submits that, at a minimum, none of the cited references discloses or suggested that a hose is connected to a **bottom face** of the container. In Moon, hose 26 is not connected to the bottom face of the alleged container 18. The alleged container (bag) 16 of Gawlik does not have the bottom face. Revette does not disclose a hose. As such, it is clear that none of the cited references disclose the above identified feature of claims 1 and 9.

Applicant also submits that Revette fails to disclose that when the system is in storage, the container holds the hose and the supporting structure within the container, as recited by claim 9. In rejecting claim 9, the Examiner asserts that frame 38 of Revette corresponds to the claimed support member. However, the frame 38 is apparently longer than the water cooler 12. It should be noted that since Revette is directed to a holder of a water cooler disposed on a pickup truck, Revette fails to disclose or recognize that any portion of the holder is stored in the water cooler 12.

Further, Applicant respectfully submits that it would not have been obvious to combine Moon with Revette, because Revette is directed to a water cooler holder for a drinking water used on a pickup truck.

Based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1 and 9 and all claims dependent thereon are patentable over the cited references.

In addition, with respect to claim 7, Applicant submits that handle 70 of Jost is not the claimed middle plate connected to **the plurality of support members**. As such, claim 7 is patentable over the cited references on its own merit in addition to the dependency upon claim 1.

Thus, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 1, 3-4 and 6-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

New Claims

Since new claims 10-11 depend upon claim 1 or claim 9, these claims are patentable over the cited references for at least the same reasons as claims 1 and 9. Further, none of the cited references discloses or suggests that the container is disposed on a center axis of the supporting structure in a vertical direction. As such, claims 10-11 are on their own merit in addition to the dependency upon claims 1 or 9.

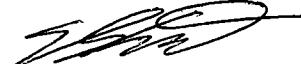
CONCLUSION

Having fully responded to all matters raised in the Office Action, Applicant submits that all claims are in condition for allowance, an indication for which is respectfully solicited. If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicant's attorney at the telephone number shown below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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